

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS AND ANALYSIS BRANCH
60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303**

OFFICE: 404-562-5850 **FAX:** 404-562-5875 **JOHNNY FREEMAN:** 404-562-5870
INTERNET: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm> **RECORDING:** 404-562-5856

December 21, 2007

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
FOR WEEK ENDING 22-Dec-07 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 12/22/07	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/15/07
Broiler/fryer	175,791	171,706
Light hens	1,590	1,565
Heavy hens	1,544	1,420

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	WEEK ENDING 15-Dec-07 (THOUSAND HEAD)		
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	313	12	325
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	339	7	346
Same week yr ago	156	0	156
To-date/2007	13,159	58	13,217
To-date/2006	7,744	53	7,797

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Total U. S. fowl slaughter in the U. S. and Canada

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	1,854	1,455	3,309
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,645	1,593	3,238
Same week yr ago	1,267	1,518	2,785
To-date/2007	68,668	73,301	141,969
To-date/2006	61,263	74,480	135,743

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
WEEK ENDING 15-Dec-07 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
Head	168,456	1,541	1,443	2,984
Avg Wt	5.56	3.23	7.99	5.53
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	169,272	1,306	1,586	2,892
Same wk yr ago	160,125	1,111	1,518	2,629
Avg Wt	5.51	3.44	7.77	5.94
To-date/2007	8,104,734	55,509	73,243	128,752
To-date/2006	8,057,771	53,519	74,427	127,946

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based 163.8 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 170.5 million head, or 7.5 million more than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 15-Dec-07

	(A) 4.25 lbs & down	(B) 4.26 - 6.25 lbs	(C) 6.26 - 7.75 lbs	(D) 7.76 lbs & up	Total
Head	44,399	82,551	24,891	16,615	168,456
Avg Live Wgt	3.88	5.50	6.98	8.49	5.56
% of total /1	26%	49%	15%	10%	100%
Last week	44,181	80,709	28,146	16,236	169,272
Avg Live Wgt	3.88	5.52	6.98	8.36	5.61
% of total /1	26%	48%	17%	9%	100%
Year Ago 2/	49,089	78,448	21,388	11,200	160,125
Avg Live Wgt	3.72	5.45	6.89	8.27	5.31
% of total /1	31%	49%	13%	7%	100%
To date/2007	2,142,079	4,011,482	1,325,179	625,994	8,104,734
To date/2006	2,279,674	3,994,544	1,120,863	662,690	8,057,771

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

Weight Class Description:

- (A) This size product is normally marketed bone-in into fast food and food service sectors and may include Cornish hens.
- (B) This size product is normally marketed into the retail grocery sector in tray pack or bagged forms.
- (C) This size product is normally marketed either into the retail grocery sector in tray pack and IQF form or is further processed and marketed into various sectors.
- (D) This size product is normally marketed deboned or as roasters or roasting chicken.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 15-Dec-07
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B)		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS	BREEDERS	
Head	1,969	2,789	28	5	4,791
Avg Wt	16.31	38.29	25.15	24.48	29.17
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	2,260	2,894	33	9	5,196
Same wk yr ago	2,117	2,655	22	12	4,806
Avg Wt	15.60	38.19	29.13	24.48	28.16
To-date/2007	100,120	133,083	1,241	264	234,708
To-date/2006	98,626	129,215	1,356	217	229,414

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.